

DATE: October 26, 2023

TO: Public Safety Advisory Board

FROM: Michael Canfield, Police Chief

SUBJECT: **Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan Items—Public Safety Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee Formation**

PURPOSE

Create and appoint Public Safety Advisory Board members to two ad hoc committees: one to explore youth substance abuse trends and prevention resources and the other to help plan forums on the future of community policing.

BACKGROUND

During the April 27, 2023 meeting, the Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) proposed and discussed potential Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan recommendations for the City Council. These recommendations were finalized at the following PSAB June 22, 2023 meeting to include:

- Youth substance abuse trends and prevention resources; and
- Forums on the future of community policing.

During their September 12, 2023 meeting, the City Council approved the PSAB's recommended work plan. See Attachment 1 for the PSAB Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan.

DISCUSSION

Youth Substance Abuse Trends and Prevention Resources

National and local data show a rising concern: the increased availability and consumption of harmful substances by our youth. The MVPD reports that substances like nicotine, cannabis, and fentanyl have become more accessible. The ease of access, especially through the internet, combined with misinformation, poses a substantial public health issue, presenting challenges for parents, youth, and the entire community. This work plan item would require in-depth research on the topic of youth substance abuse and is intended to raise awareness to this pressing issue

as well as make recommendations to the MVPD on how best to develop its training and outreach strategies.

Forums On the Future of Community Policing

To foster engagement and understanding between the MVPD and the broader Mountain View community, the PSAB will plan and conduct up to three community forums. The purpose of these forums is to allow residents to communicate directly with the MVPD about their concerns, ask questions, and gain insights into policing matters. The forums may cover the changing nature of law enforcement and provide a local viewpoint on broader national issues. Topics might range from services the MVPD provides to exploring areas of innovation and addressing emerging community issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the PSAB create an ad hoc committee for Youth Substance Abuse Trends and Prevention Resources to provide recommendations to the PSAB. The work of the committee could include:

- Review national, Santa Clara County, and Mountain View-specific data on substance abuse, arrests, poisonings, and overdoses.
- Receive update on current substance abuse trends.
- Receive a presentation on MVPD's approach to youth substance abuse.
- Receive a presentation on available resources for prevention of youth substance abuse.
- Receive input from parents, youth, and other involved stakeholders.
- Explore recommendations for MVPD related to the department's training and outreach strategies.
- Provide updates and recommendations to the PSAB for consideration.

Staff recommends that the PSAB create an ad hoc committee to provide PSAB recommendations on forums covering the broad topic of community policing. The work of the subcommittee could include:

- Identify community groups that desire to participate in such forums.
- Propose a recommended format and location for the forums.
- Seek community input and suggest forum content/topics.
- Help promote event attendance.
- Provide updates and recommendations to the PSAB for consideration.

MC/CG/1/MGR
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Attachment: 1. PSAB Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan